

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
SECURITIES DEPARTMENT**

**IN THE MATTER OF: RAY W. HAGER, and  
BETTER INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS.**

**FILE NO. 0500056**

**TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROHIBITION**

**TO RESPONDENTS:** Ray W. Hager  
(CRD # 2802640)  
16682 Spring Valley Rd  
Morrison, Illinois 61270

Better Investment Solutions  
723 W. Rt. 30  
Rock Falls, Illinois 61071

On information and belief, I, Jesse White, Secretary of State for the State of Illinois, through my designated representative, who has been fully advised in the premises by the staff of the Securities Department, Office of the Secretary of State, herein finds:

**Count I**  
**Sale of Unregistered Security**

1. Respondent, Ray W. Hager, (hereinafter "Hager," or collectively with Respondent Better Investment Solutions "Respondents") in a natural person. Respondent Hager currently resides at 16682 Spring Valley Rd, Morrison, Illinois 61270. Respondent Hager conducts business under the name of Better Investment Solutions.
2. Respondent, Better Investment Solutions hereinafter "Better Investment Solutions," or collectively with Respondent Ray W. Hager "Respondents") is located at 723 W. Rt. 30, Rock Falls, and Illinois 61071.
3. Respondents obtained a list of potential investors from a third party service provider.
4. Respondents mailed information regarding an offering of unregistered promissory notes to numerous Illinois residents.

Temporary Order of Prohibition

-2-

5. More than one Illinois Investor purchased the notes described in paragraph 4.
6. More than one of the sales of the notes referenced in paragraph 10 occurred in March of 2005.
7. The promissory note referenced in paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 is a security as defined in Section 2.1 of the Illinois Securities Law of 1953 [815 ILCS 5.1 et seq.] (the "Act").
8. The activities described in paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 constitutes the offer and sale of a security as those terms are defined in Sections 2.1, 2.5, and 2.5a of the Act.
9. Section 5 of the Act provides, inter alia, that all securities except those exempt under Section 3 or those offered or sold in transactions exempt under Section 4 shall be registered either by coordination or by qualification prior to their offer or sale in the State of Illinois.
10. Respondents failed to file with the Secretary of State an application for registration of the securities described above as required by the Act, and as a result, the security was not registered pursuant to Section 5 of the Act prior to its offer in the State of Illinois.
11. Section 12.A of the Act provides, inter alia, that it shall be a violation for any person to offer or sell any security except in accordance with the provisions of the Act.
12. Section 12.D of the Act provides, inter alia, that it shall be a violation for any person to fail to file with the Secretary of State any application, report or document required to be filed under the provisions of the Act or any rule or regulation made by the Secretary of State pursuant to the Act.
13. That by virtue of the foregoing, Respondents has violated Sections 12.A and 12.D of the Act.

**Count II**

**Failing to Register as an Investment Advisor and/or Investment Advisor Representative**

14. Respondents mailed a letter describing the 'services' of Better Investment Solutions. The letter claimed the "Better Investment Solutions, LLC" was created in 2002 to provide independent Financial Advisors a commission-free platform to serve their clients" and was "uniquely structured to provide access to nearly every investment and insurance vehicle".
15. The letter described in paragraph 14 was printed on letterhead captioned "Better Investment Solutions Ray Hager Financial Advisor".
16. As of May 12, 2005, signage at 723 W. Rt. 30, Rock Falls, and Illinois 61071 displayed the name "Better Investment Solutions Ray Hager Financial Advisor".

Temporary Order of Prohibition

-3-

17. By the activities described by paragraphs 14, 15 and 16, Respondents are holding themselves out as Investment Advisors or Investment Advisor Representatives.
18. Section 8 of the Act provides, inter alia, that except as otherwise provided in this subsection A, every investment advisor and investment advisor representative shall be registered with the Secretary of State.
19. Respondent Hager is not currently registered in the State of Illinois as an Investment Advisor or Investment Advisor Representative.
20. Respondent Better Investment Solutions is not currently registered in the State of Illinois as an Investment Advisor or Investment Advisor Representative.
21. Section 12.C of the Act provides, inter alia, that it shall be a violation for any person to act as a dealer, salesperson, investment advisor, or investment advisor representative, unless registered as such, where such registration is required under the provisions of the Act.
22. That by virtue of the foregoing, Respondents has violated Sections 12.C of the Act.
23. The aforementioned findings are based upon credible evidence.
24. Section 11.F (2) of the Act provides, inter alia, that the Secretary of State may temporarily prohibit the offer or sale of securities by any person, without notice and prior hearing, if the Secretary of State shall deem it necessary to prevent an imminent violation of the Act or to prevent losses to investors that will occur as a result of prior violations of the Act.
25. The entry of this Temporary Order prohibiting Respondents from acting as an investment advisor and offering or selling securities in or from the State of Illinois is in the public interest and for the protection of the investing public and is consistent with the purposes intended by the provisions of the Act.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT: pursuant to the authority granted by Section 11.F of the Act, Respondent, Ray W. Hager and Respondent Better Investment Solutions are prohibited from:

1. Offering or selling securities in or from this State until the further Order of the Secretary of State; and
2. From acting as an investment advisor or investment advisor representative until the further Order of the Secretary of State.

NOTICE is hereby given that Respondents may request a hearing on this matter by transmitting such request in writing to the Gregory J. Solberg, Illinois Securities Department, 69

Temporary Order of Prohibition

-4-

West Washington Street, Suite 1220, Chicago, Illinois 60602. Such request must be made within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of entry of the Temporary Order of Prohibition. Upon receipt of a request for hearing, a hearing will be scheduled as soon as reasonably practicable. A request for hearing will not stop the effectiveness of this Temporary Order and will extend the effectiveness of this Temporary Order for sixty days from the date the hearing request is received by the Department.

FAILURE BY ANY RESPONDENT TO REQUEST A HEARING WITHIN THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF THIS TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROHIBITION SHALL CONSTITUTE AN ADMISSION OF ANY FACTS ALLEGED HEREIN AND SHALL CONSTITUTE SUFFICIENT BASIS TO MAKE THIS TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROHIBITION FINAL.

Dated: This 18<sup>th</sup> day of May 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse White" with a stylized flourish at the end.

JESSE WHITE  
Secretary of State  
State of Illinois

Attorney for the Secretary of State:

Gregory J. Solberg  
Illinois Securities Department  
69 West Washington Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602  
312-793-9643